The Middletown Transcript.

VOL. XXXI.—NO 5. MIDDLETOWN, DELAWARE, SATURDAY, JANUARY 29, 1898. PRICE THREE CENTS.

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The Sixth Commandment

Is it nothing to you that my whole happiness lies at your mercy? Am I only one more of the many you have flirted with, and then smiled aside as if they were children? Ah! God never created any creature more cruel than a beautiful coquette without heart! Do not deny it! You have used every charm you posses to make me love you, and have succeeded. You shall listen to me now. I love you! I love you! I love you! Nay, do not speak. I will not take your final answer to day. Tomorrow I will come for it. Ah! if it is 'Yes,' I swear that you shall never regret it. If it is 'No,' then you will send one more man to 'hell!'" and without another word Jack Armstrong turned on his heel and left abruptly. Hilda Phare looked after his retreating figure with a vague sense of shame. She had won the love of the "woman hater," but the victory was leaving a sting in even her hardened coquette conscience, though she tried to feel herself aggrieved at his outburst.

"As if I can help men falling in love with me. I cannot marry them all. I certainly do like Captain Armstrong, but I don't like matrimony. I want to keep my freedom a little longer first. A pretty girl can at any time easily get engaged, but it requires an ugly girl to easily get disengaged, so that even beauty has its drawbacks," she concluded, with a little soft laugh. Then, with the unconfessed desire to drive the recent interview from her mind, she took up a society paper and soon forgot all the crumpled rose leaves of her happy, careless life in the pleasure of reading a description of the dress the "beautiful Miss Phare wore at the Queen's ball, where, as the belle of the season, she was the cynosure of all eyes."

"My dear Hilda, have you heard the dreadful news?" The girl look up from the comfortable wicker chair where she was reclining lazily under the shade of the old oak on the lawn.

"No, what news?" she asked, indifferently, for her portly aunt's face looked more important than horrified, as she stood by her niece's side, holding a large white and green lined sunshade over her bare head.

"Mrs. Chester shot her husband and that pretty Miss Dene yesterday afternoon, and then killed herself."

"Oh, how dreadful! What made her do it?" exclaimed Hilda, thoroughly roused now, as she sat bolt upright in her chair.

"Well, it appears that she caught him kissing this Miss Dene, to whom he had been engaged before he married his wife for her money. Fancy shooting both of them like that!"

"What a wicked, cruel woman, Mrs. Chester must have been. It was only yesterday morning I rode over to Hill Hall to see her new Paris dress. It is quite horrible to think that I have touched the hand of a murderess," and the girl gave a shudder.

"Yes, it is, indeed! I am so very sorry for their poor little daughter, but, of course, I can never allow Jessie and Pussie to play with her again. I must go now, for I want to write and tell your Aunt Mary all about it. She will be so interested—shocked, I mean," and she returned to the house with that feeling of pleasurable importance we all experience when we are the first to tell the news of some calamity that has befallen our friends.

Left to herself Hilda sank back in the wicker chair and tried by reading to distract her thoughts once more, but this time from thinking of the tragedy at Hill Hall. The heat, however, made her drowsy, and the paper soon dropped on the grass from the nerveless fingers, and the lids soon drooped over the beautiful eyes.

Suddenly a chocking sensation caught the sleeper's throat. She tried to move, but could not. Was she dying—dying out there alone on the lawn? She felt her breath coming quicker and quicker, her strength ebbing faster and faster. Then she seemed to lose all consciousness.

"Where was she now? Who were those?" she asked one standing beside her.

"They are the souls of the dead waiting till the day dawns and the golden gates are opened."

"Then I must be dead, and those must be the gates of heaven, that beautiful place I used to like reading about when a child. I will join the throng and go with them."

And when the day dawned she also pressed forward towards those golden gates, guarded by angels, but though many passed through, more were turned away. At last only Hilda and another were left. That other was a broken hearted women, and the girl shrunk back with loathing when she saw it was Mrs. Chester! As she recoiled an angel beckoned to the weeping woman, and she beheld her no more. But now the gates were closed. Hilda sprang forward and stretched out her hands to those white robed guardians

"You have forgotten me."

"There is no forgetting here," came the answer.

"Then why do you not let me through?"

"Your sins expel you."

"My sins! My sins! What sins have I committed? What commandment have I broken?" questioned the girl, with the surprise of self-convinced innocence.

"The sixth commandment. 'Thou shalt do no murder.'

Hilda shrank back in horror, amazement, anger.

"I commit murder! I, who could never bear to see even a bird shot."

"Yes, you are a murderess," answered the angel, sternly. "You who recoiled from that woman are much more guilty. She, in great temptation, in great provocation killed but mortal bodies; you, in mere vanity, in mere idleness, have killed immortal souls! Thinkest thou there is no margin to a commandment. Know you not that though the text be brief, yet it does overflow beyond the limits of words on the broad margin of meaning labeling unwritten sins, and you have broken a marginal commandment, 'Thou shalt do no murder.'

"But I have committed no murder," reiterated the trembling girl.

"Behold and see," and the angel passesed his hand over the eyes of the belle of the London season.

"Yes, she knows that young face again He had been one of her boyish suitors, whom she had flirted with, then laughed at. He is holding a dicebox now in his shaking hand, and on that dicebox is written one word—'Hilda.' Ah! who is that drunken man glaring at her with bloodshot eyes? He lifts a glass of spirits, and on that glass is engraved one word—'Hilda.'"

Ah! poor wife of a loveless marriage, made by the husband in a moment of pique. Her tears as they fall form one word—"Hilda."

Yet another face she sees—the face of a last year's flirtation. It is pale with the anguish of death, and on the pistol by his side is stamped one word —"Hilda."

Then the girl falls at the feet of the angel with an exceeding bitter cry.

"I am indeed a murderess."

Her own bitter cry awakens Hilda, and she starts up trembling in every limb, to find that the lace scarf around her throat had caught in the wicker chair, which perhaps accounted for the choking sensation of her dream.

The next day the belle of the season said "Yes" to Jack Armstrong, and sealed with two loving lips the death warrant of the heartless coquette.

FASCINATION OF FOIBLES.

"No man is sincerely and securely loved, except by those who know his foibles," says Sir Arthur Helps. Rousseau qualifies his recognition of faults in his old friend Gauffrecourt by the surmise that without them he would probably have been less amiable. In no works is this better exemplified than in those of Charles Dickens. "When I know all the foibles a man, has with little trouble in the discovery, I begin to think he is worth liking." And of Dickens' father, and his notable Micawberisms of speech and demeanor, he declares that no one could know him without liking him the better for them. No one likes Micawber less for his follies, and Dickens liked his father better the more he recalled his whimsical qualities.

One of the notable examples of the fact that foibles may rather endear than estrange is in Oliver Goldsmith. The epithet so often heard, and ever in kindly tones, of "Poor Goldsmith" speaks volumes. Writing of him, Washington Irving says that when eminent talent is united to spotless virtue, we are awed and dazzled into admiration, but our admiration is apt to be cold; while there is something in the harmless infirmities of a good and great but erring nature that pleads touchingly with ours. Irving is persuaded that few who consider the real compound of admirable and whimsical qualities which formed Goldsmith's character would wish to prune away its eccentricities, trim its grotesque luxuriance, and clip it down to the decent formalities of rigid virtue.

"Let not his frailties be remembered," said Johnson; "he was a very great man." Washington Irving would rather say, "Let them be remembered, since their chief end was to endear."

Oliver Wendell Holmes asserts that we must have a weak spot in any character before we can love it much. "People that do not laugh or cry, or take more of anything than is altogether good for them, or use any but dictionary words, may be admirable subjects for biographies; but we don't always care most for those flat-pattern flowers that press best in the herbarium."

The most non-exacting and most indulgent cannot, perhaps, fail to find some faults in the nearest and best friends; but in not a few cases, foibles are even the strengtheners of regards.

If you feel weak, dull and discouraged you will find a bottle of Hood's Sarsaparill will do you wonderful good.

Times Improving.

"Don't you think that you can raise my salary?" asked the head clerk.

"I've had a mighty hard times raising it lately," replied the employer, "but I rather think I can have it ready for you every pay day hereafter.

Don't Use Tobacco.—The Wilmington Sunday Star says: "Besides the Dover Index, which first published the statement that no one connected with it use tobacco in any form, the Snow Hill Press and the Greensboro Free Press claim the same distinction.

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Washington . . . Letter

PRESIDENT McKinley's Cuban policy has not been changed one iota by the democratic hubbub in the House last week. He stands now just where he has stood from the beginning, and when he makes a move, it will be because of happenings in Cuba and not because of howling among democrats. For weeks this government has been ready to move at the proper time when it shall in the eyes of the civilized world be justified in moving to bring about peace in Cuba. It will not delay because of lying Spanish news from Cuba, any more than it will hurry because of democratic ranting. The republicans in Congress are supporting this policy solidly and are likely to continue to do so, notwithstanding democratic prophecy to the contrary.

The republicans of the House are as solidly benind the adminstration on the Hawaiian question as upon the Cuban question. This was shown when Chairman Hitt, of the committee on Foreign Affairs, moved to table a resolution calling upon the President for his authority for negotiating a treaty for the annexation of Hawaii in which it is agreed to pay the Hawaiian public debt of $4,000,000 out of the U. S. Treasury. The democrats tried their best to prevent the resolution being laid on the table, but Mr. Hitt's motion was supported by the republicans and was carried. There are no new developments in connection with the consideration of the annexation treaty by the Senate.

Notwithstanding the honor paid to the memory of Hon. Benjamin Butterworth, late Commissioner of Patents, by the President, the Cabinet and other distinguished public men, who attended his funeral, last week, he is to be further honored by a public memorial meeting, if present plans are carried out. The service that he rendered the country in purifying the practice of patent attorneys, though known by comparatively few, is inestimable in value. It is expected that Acting Commissioner Greely, who was in accord with Mr. Butterworth and his able co-adjutor in the recent reforms, will succeed him as Commissioner of Patents,

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It is Mr. Justice McKenna now, the late Attorney General's nomination to the bench of the Supreme Court having been confirmed by the Senate without a roll call. Gov. Griggs, of New Jersey, who will, as soon as his nomination is confirmed by the Senate, assume the portfolio of Attorney General in the Cabinet, has been extending his already large acquaintance among public men during a visit to Washington; consequently the President is receiving more praise than ever for the selection of so able a man as Gov. Griggs to succeed Justice McKenna.

Representative Dalzell, of Pennsylvania, hit the Southern democrats who are trying to get a bill appropriating $288,000 to cover alleged damages in consequence of the war to the Book Publishing Company of the Southern Methodist Church substituted for the Senate bill giving that Company the right to refer its claims to the Court of Claims, a heavy blow when he recalled to their memories that an unanswerable report had been made against these claims twenty-five years ago, when they were before the House, by a sub-committee composed of Secretary Wilson of the Department of Agriculture, republican, and Hon. W. R. Morrison, democrat, both then members of the House. Mr. Dalzell said the claim was at that time thrown out as unworthy of the attention of patriotic representatives, sent to Washington, not to loot, but to guard the Treasury.

There is some misapprehension even in Congress, of the nature of the old Stanley Matthews resolution, expressing the opinion that the government has the option of paying its bonds in silver, which was recently reoffered by Senator Teller, and which is now under consideratien, and will this week be readopted by the silver majority of the Senate, and there is probably much more throughout the country. It is now, just as it was twenty years ago, when it was adopted by both branches of Congress, merely a concurrent resolution, not requiring the President's signature and not being binding upon anybody, even when adopted by both Senate and House. In fact, such resolutions are nothing more than an expression of the opinions of those who vote for them. It will be remembered that Mr. Cleveland ignored one or two resolutions of this nature, declaring the opinion of Congress as to what he hould do on the Cuban question. In this case the resolution will not get far enough to need ignoring, as, owing to its failure to be acted upon by the House, it will never be officially brought to the attention of President McKinley.

House Elections Committee No1. has reported in favor of seating Aldrich, the populist contestant from the fourth Alabama district. Plowman, democrat, now holds the seat.

It is understood that the President has decided upon what modifications of the civil service rules he will make, and the order may be issued any day, The modification, according to this information, is along the lines of the recommendations made in the recent communications of members of the Cabinet to the Senate.

ON CROSSING BRIDGES.

"Oh, well," said she, with a deprecating laugh and a shrug "you know I'm one of those people who always cross bridges before they come to 'em."

"It is a foolish practice," returned the moralist. "You often find, when you get to the bridge, that it isn't so hard to cross, after all."

"I think I've heard that remark before," she replied. "People often give me good advice on the subject."

The moralist did not listen. "Sometimes." you find that there is not any bridge to cross. In any event, it is better to wait until the evil actually comes before you worry about it."

"Then you don't have time," she answered. "You have to do something quickly—rush across the bridge, perhaps, without waiting to see if it is safe or not."

"There," cried the moralist, triumphantly, "you've condemned yourself. Of course one is crushed at first by the unexpectedness of trouble."

"Who is? I am not."

"Yes, you are. Everybody is," replied the moralist, shortly, with a so-much-the-worse-for-the-facts air. "But, as you say, you are obliged to recover, to consider what is best to be done. You have no time to sigh, and, as you have done no sighing beforehand, you escape it altogether. Don't you see?"

Then she answered:

I have all my life been crushed by shortsighted philosophers like you. Hitherto I have held my peace, but now I shall speak out, and tell you what I know to be true. There are distinct advantages to be got from crossing bridges before we come to them."

The moralist stared incredulously. She was not accustomed to having her facts disputed.

"I don't know," she went on, whether it is well-known psychological fact, but it ought to be, that if a certain contingency dwells persistently in your mind, and neither your will nor your reason can get rid of it, there is some cause why it should be so; that it is highly probable that some day you will come across just that contingency, and the warning has been given you to prepare for it. In other words, if, in spite of all you efforts to prevent it, your are mentally continually crossing a certain bridge, the 'signs on it' are that that particular bridge will mateialize some day, and you'll cross it boldly. And if you prepare yourself, you are going to meet it with the advantage of the preparation. There's one good of crossing bridges first."

The moralist looked interested. A scientific lecture was more than she had expected.

"I'll give you an illustration," she went on. "Some years ago, on my way to teaching, every morning I crossed a railway track. And just where I crossed it there was a small sunken place, a hole, at the side of the track. For some inexplicable reason that hole, which was neither very wide nor deep, possessed a strange fascination for me. I could not get rid of or account for the attraction, but every day, as I passed it, I wondered what I should do if some day in a hurry, my foot should slip and I should be caught by leg in that hole. And suppose a train should be coming? I believe I considered that accident in every possible phase. I thought I might scream to the people in the nearest house but the nearest house was not very near, and they might not hear me. Then I thought I could call upon any passer; but there might be no one in sight. I might wave something and signal the coming train (if it should be coming). But suppose it be at dusk, and the signal not seen? I might scream myself hoarse, but if nobody heard me what good would it do?"

The moralist settled her eye-glasses—moralists frequently wear eye-glasses—and became absorbed in the possible catastrophe.

"I can't tell how many weeks I studied my imaginary dilema with that hole. It became a mania with me to think up a fresh possibility. Every time I walked over it I wondered how deep the hole was, but was prevent from exploring least I should hasten the accident. I might have become a monomaniac, and yet never have known just what I should do in such an emergency, but at last a strange thing happened. It was one night when I was detained late, and it had grown quite dark before I started for home. It was raining, just a drizzle, but the walking was sloppy and unpleasant, and I hurried along, only anxious to get home as fast as I could. Somehow I never thought of my railroad hole that night, but ran over the slippery tracks without stopping. Just as I reached the other side, with a sudden sickening sensation which I can remember yet my foot slipped, and down it went, caught firmly in that identical hole I had long thought about."

The moralist was breathless.

"The experience was quite as bad as I anticipated," she continued, "and in that minute I do believe I suffered all the agonies of what I had foreseen. It had all happened as I had expected. The night was gloomy, no signal could be seen, the shrill screams I gave as I fell down by the track were unheard, and I actually did hear a low rumble of the rail which told me that a train was not many miles off. I lived through the whole of every possibilty in that one instant. And then—"

"Well?"

"Well, what did you do?" asked the moralist, impatiently.

"And then the whole flood of feeling rolled back as suddenly as it had come, and in an instant flesh of thought I knew exactly what to do. There, you see, was the advantage of my preparation."

"Why, I just reached down unbuttoned my boot with a jerk and pulled my foot out," she answered, coolly. "I'd thought of everything else. Then I sat down on the wet ground a little distance off, and watched the train go by. And there are still other advantages than this in crossing bridges—"

But here the moralist, with a pained expression, suddenly left the room, and the remainder of the lecture was lost.

"PLEASE."

When we were children, and demanded, "Do this!" or "Give me that!" our nurses would ask, "What is the little word that makes everything easy?" To which we would sheepishly reply, "Please."

In the opera of "Pinafore" we used to hear a man sing:

I think that on the seas
The expression "if you please!"
A particularly gentlemanly tone implants.

To which the chorus unanimously subjoined,

And so do his sisters and his cousins and his aunts!

But, to the shame of Young America be it said, we have changed all that now. Among the present generation "please" appears to have gone out of fashion as completely as has "Pinafore." Both are what the youth of today would call "back numbers." Our girl says to her brother or his friend, "Pick up my fan," or, "Hand me my gloves," and receives them often without any remark; or if she vouchsafes an acknowledgement, it is by that briefest and curtest of all brief and curt expressions—"Thanks."

Young husbands and wives, too, seem to feel that the "little word" is unnecessary. I heard a wife say to her husband: "John, go up stairs and get me my shawl. I am chilly."

Perhaps it was the first time she had spoken in that way. Or perhaps John resented the fact that she spoke thus in the presence of an outsider, for he said, laughingly.

"A certain word of six letters seems to have gone out of fashion."

Of course the wife was vexed, and ran away up stairs after her own shawl, and returned wrapped in it and her offended dignity.

Nevertheless, her husband had right on his side. Although life is short, it is quite long enough to take time to be polite. I sometimes think that life would be sweeter, and perhaps longer—who knows?—if we would all take more time to say the small words that smooth the rough places of every day life. The omission of one little word from a line of poetry will change the measure and check the rhythm. Add the seemingly insignificant word, and the verse flows on smoothly.

The "little kindnesses," which, as Lowell tells us, "most leave undone or despise," are the grains of sweetness that make the cup of life palatable.

One Wall-Covering.

A young girl, whose home is an old-fashioned farm-house with plain white walls, has made of her bedroom an interesting and beautiful nook. She dislikes white walls. Her parents do not care to change that to which for years they have been accustomed, so she submits to their decree. But for many months she has collected really good illustrations from different periodicals, and with tiny tacks has fastened these to her walls. In this day of fine illustrations such a collection as hers is not difficult to make, and the pastime is certainly a delightful one. This room charmed me. It is a light, airy apartment, and the pictures show to advantage. One corner, is of course, devoted to Gibson's imposing men and incomparable girls, while another is given up to du Maurier. The figure of the dearly loved novelist himself (drawn by Gibson) is there, as is also a beautiful engraving of his home on Hampstead Heath. In a niche in this room I saw the picture of the sleeping Joan of Arc, from the painting by George W. Joy. This had been cut from a recent number of the "Bazar." In what my young hostess calls her sacred corner is an exquisite copy of Hoffmann's "Head of the Christ," and near this are several pictures of divinely sweet angels among others, two angelic cherubs taken from one of Correggio's paintings. In still another part of the room is what this clever girl calls her "anti-blues collection." This is a group of pictures of babies and children, all of whom are so chubby and sweet that one finds herself unconsciously smiling back into the innocent faces. I have only mentioned a few of the many pictures (some of them cheap engravings, but by far the larger number cut from current periodicals) that adorn these wall. There are pictures of animals (some beauties by Frederic Remington), marine pictures mountain views, and society sketches. Besides these one sees here and there an unmounted photograph.

"You know," said my friend, "I had to do something to relieve that cold blankness, and now I would not exchange my dear pictures for all the gorgeous papers that could be offered me at so many cents per roll. These mean something, and are actually company for me when I am here all by myself. And collecting them has been the most interesting work I ever did. I shall continue the pursuit until there is not an inch of uncovered wall."

It has occurred to me that some other girl who is dissatisfied with the plainness of her especial sanctum may be moved to follow this girl's example, and make it beautiful from the material that comes to her in the many periodicals that drift into the home with each passing week and month. The tacks that are used in fastening the illustrations to the wall are so tiny as to make only very small holes in the plaster—holes too small to damage the walls.

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Our Woman's .....Column

CHILDREN AND COLDS.

In some households it is taken as a matter of course that during the winter months the children shall have an unremitting succession of colds, which render the little ones uncomfortable themselves, and excessively disagreeable to the persons with whom they come in contact. But this state of affairs is due to ignorance. The educated mother now appreciates that an influenza is an unnecessary adjunct to her child's personality, and that a chrobic cataarh is to be advoided as is any other disease. She takes precautions to prevent colds, and, if by some mischance they come, knows how to care for the patient in the earlier stages of the complaint, or until such a time as she finds it advisible to consult a physician. But, above all, she believes in precaution that is a stronger weapon than cure.

In the first place, the small child must wear woolen next to his skin, and this woolen must extend to neck, wrists and ankles. At night his sleeping-garments are Canton-flannel drawers with feet; or, better still, they are of knit or woven material, three-quarters wool and one-quarter cotton. These are to be bought ready made, and already shrunk, with so many improvements that they are very nearly perfect. Under the night-drawers goes a shirt which clings more closely than does the larger outside garment. Of course this shirt is changed for another in the daytime. It may be well to remark in passing, that union suits (shirt and drawers in one piece) are now made for children, and are very convenient. Woolen stockings are not a necessity. Indeed, many mothers find they keep the feet too moist, and thus render the wearer sensitive to cold.

Unless he is not well, the properly conducted child will go out every day that the weather is not actually inclement. These outings need not be of a lengthy character if the thermometer is very low or the wind keen and raw. For a small child all walks and drives and out-door play should come between the hours of 11 A. M. and 3 P. M. The nursery must be a sunny room in which the thermometer gets no higher than seventy. During the night it may be cool and well ventilated. As the feet are peculiarly sensitive to chill, they should be protected by stout shoes and in damp weather overshoes must be worn. Running about the room barefoot is a habit of which the wise mother disapproves, and which she forcibly forbids.

After the children are bathed and their heads shampooed, they may be treated to a brisk rubbing down with alcohol. This should also be freely applied to the head after it has been rubbed dry with a coarse towel.

ADJUSTABLE COURTESY.

In spite of the fact that so much stress has often been laid on the importance of little things—the little acts of politeness—there are still people who neglect them. I fancy the persons who forget the significance of the little acts of courtesy are those who do not use them constantly, to whom they are as ornaments, to be put on and off at pleasure. And in their homes the small sweet courtesies are folded away as are the dress shirt and lawn tie that are donned with the evening suit. I have in mind one man whose manners when he is on his guard, are irreproachable. When "it is worth while" he can be the soul of courtesy. When he is calling upon a comparative stranger upon whom he wishes to make an impression, he rises when a woman enters the room, holds open the door for her to pass out, remains standing until all the ladies present are seated, and springs to his feet to receive a cup of tea from the hand of his hostess, bowing graceful thanks as he receives it. But in his home, or when the only persons present are those with whom he has nothing to gain or lose, it is another story. Then he lolls in an easy-chair and does as he pleases. Consequently he sometimes forgets his adjustable courtesy—as once, when absorbed in conversation with a lady who was to the manner born, he drew his knife from his pocket and proceeded then and there to trim his nails.

"My dear," said the amused observer afterward to a friend, "the only kind of hair that never comes off is that which grows fast to the scalp. Our friend's manners are like a false front. They are evidently put on with invisible hair-pins, but a close scrutiny reveals the fact that they do not grow fast."

Free of Charge to Sufferers.

Cut this out and take it to your druggist and get a sample bottle free of Dr. King's New Discovery, for Consumption, Coughs and Colds. They do not ask you to buy before trying. This will show you the great merits of this truly wonderful remedy, and show you what can be accomplished by the regular size bottle. This is no experiment, and would be disastrous to the proprietors, did they not know it would invariably cure. Many of the best physicians are now using it in their practice with great results, and are relying on it in most severe cases. It is guaranteed. Trial bottles free at Vaughan's Pharmacy, Middletown, Delaware.

Regular size 50 cents and $1.00.

The Middletown Transcript

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY MORNING

Middletown, New Castle County, Delaware,

McKENDREE DOWNHAM,

EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

Entered at the Post Office as second-class matter

MIDDLETOWN, DEL, JAN. 29, 1898

WOULD WE?

"I have strong hopes of our coming together politically. As to how it will come about I am unable to tell. I think a ticket gotten up pledged to vote for a free railroad bill can win in the State of Delaware, but you fellows would be afraid to advocate it."

Would we? The above is the closing paragraph from a business man, a Republican, in a letter to the editor of the TRANSCRIPT. Our friend should know that the editor of the TRANSCRIPT has never shown himself afraid to advocate any where, at any time. any measure in which he had faith, nor has he been a man to change his mind suddenly. He has never stood for nor against the Pennsylvania railroad, a corporation which has had great influence in legislation in this State, and which is the "afraid" to which our business friend evidently refers. We answer for ourselves. We are not afraid.

But judging from the past we should say the Delaware farmers, who really can control these matters, are afraid. They have for years suffered the well-known "friends" of the railroad to control nominations and thus to control legislation. That is the fact and it leaves nothing more to be said. A man to gain political favors in Delaware in the past has had to seek the friendship of the close friends of the Pennsylvania railroad or fight for all he got. Let the farmer show himself independent, an advocate of a "free railroad," if that is a good thing, and the newspapers will stand by him. It is cowardly to stand behind a bush and cry to the editor—"You fellows are afraid."

But what of political harmony in the Republican Party in Delaware? "Strong hopes" have been blasted for years. Members of the Legislature will be elected by districts; it is to be presumed they will be nominated by districts, then men locally rather than a general policy for a "free railroad bill" will be the issue as to members of the General Assembly. If the "afraid" of the Republican editors to a free railroad bill is all, we think harmony can be assured, for certainly the Republican editor of Delaware has seen and experienced enough to cure him of all "afraids."

GOOD ROADS.

"The chief topic of discussion about town at present seems to be the county roads. You hear it on every side, "Are the roads any better?" "Are they any worse?" "How do the roads suit you?" until one wishes people would stop talking about the condition of the roads and talk or think about some plan to make them better. It is claimed that one road in particular out from town is the worst in the county, but that is a distinction we had rather not have."—Exchange.

The above item from a Greenwood correspondent to an exchange is a fair illustration of the condition of the public highways in many places. The people pay taxes sufficient to have good roads but so long as the money is to be expended for the "good of the party" rather than for the improvement of the roads just such complaints as the above will exist. It is not business to pay a man who does but a partial day's work for a full day because he votes as does the road commissioner, the supervisor, or some other time—serving politican. What is the way out of this political rut? The farmers who are the most interested in good roads hold the key to the solution-they could say let business methods be applied to road work, we demand it, and we will enforce it.

Perhaps it is not all due to politics—the bad roads. The lack of practical and scientific knowledge of road building and road mending may be in it. This being true men as overseers having the most experience in good road work should be selected. If it were certain a practical man and not a politician would be appointed it might prove the most economic to have a State Road Supervisor with power to direct and to submit a general report. The amount of money wasted on roads warrants such a course. But the farmers do not care—not to all appearances. Some of them may say upon reading this article that the TRANSCRIPT suggestion is a good one but none of them will endorse it with his pen. The politician smiles at the wishes of such men and goes his way.

The TRANSHIPT last week gave some excellent clippings upon road improvement, and other suggestions may be found upon the fourth page of this issue. They will not apply to every section but there are ideas worthy practical consideration.

THE Legislature has done nothing this week—nothing save to put in the time at an expense of $150.00 a day. Mr. Pennington of the attorneys to examine the laws is sick and the lawyers think it will take them four months to do the work. A bill to fix the salary of the Judges has been introduced. It provides that the chancellor and chief justice are to receive $3,500 a year, and each of the associate justices $3,300 a year. The chancellor is to receive $250 dollars a year additional and the associate justice of Kent county $200 a year additional for the making of the court reports.

JUDGE Joseph McKenna, Attorney-General, was confirmed by the Senate last Friday afternoon as a Justice of the United States Supreme Court. The confirmation was strenuously opposed by a few senators but it did not have the effect of preventing the confirmation without roll call. Gov. John W. Griggs of New Jersey has been nominated and confirmed as the new member of the Cabinet.

THE TRANSCRIPT $1.00 per year.

A SHATTERED IDOL.

"A significant attack upon what is characterized as "Bryanism" in Democratic politics emanates from a quarter which cannot be suspected of hostility to the Democratic party even as at present constituted. The author is Mr. Arthur McEwen, who in 1896 supported Mr. Bryan for the presidency in the columns of the "New York Journal," and who is now, through the same newspaper, undertaking to demonstrate that Mr. Bryan is a man of one idea, too narrow to be the ideal candidate of the "new Democracy." Mr. McEwen protests against a test of Democracy which rests upon the coinage of silver at 16 to 1, which, he says, is not a principle, but a policy, that may with safety and honor be left for determination until other and more important issues have been settled. If Mr. Bryan were as great as his opportunity, asserts this critic in the Bryan camp, he would seek in these years between campaigns "not to narrow the issue, but to broaden it; to challenge the pillagers and oppressors of the people wherever they have erected a fortress of privileges." "To insist upon the ratio of a 16 to 1 as if it were an eleventh commandment," says Mr. McEwen, "is not only indefensible on rational grounds when the principles of Democracy are being stated, but it repels men who are so constituted that they like to keep company with intellectual adults."

Mr. McEwen declares that the whole East is hostile to a Democracy which limits itself to the 16 to 1 theory. "Right or wrong," he adds, "the majority of citizens here, most of them quite as honest as any farmer in Nebraska or Kansas, look upon the financial phase of Bryanism as a dangerous fad, although in spirit they are Democratic and would like to vote with the party." While recognizing the enthusiasm of the West and South for free silver coinage, Mr. McEwen is of the opinion that the voters of those sections do not possess an intimate acquaintance with the arguments for the other side, and intimates that they display obstinacy in standing by their position in spite of defeat, "christening a mulish stubborness with fine names that minister to pride."

Everything, in Mr. McEwen's opinion, now points to the renomination of Mr. Bryan in 1900. "It is the knowledge of that," he declares, "which causes Democrats of my kind to deplore that, as he comes to be better known, to be subject to critical examination when men are not excited by a political canvass, he grows smaller rather than bigger, and instead of being a man of lofty and simple and utterly sincere mind, appears to be revealing himself merely as a superior specimen of the smart lawyer-politician of the middle West, a class with which those who know Congress are familiar. • • • It is the disproportion between the actual Bryan with his fixed idea, his petty 16 to 1, his political calculations, and the cause which he could represent were he framed on lines as large as that cause needs for true expression in leadership which grieves and disappoints."

The idol is shattered at last, and Mr. Bryan's devoted champions and followers in the East are no longer proud of their allegiance. On the contrary, it may be reasonably inferred that most of them would welcome his retirement from the field and the substitution of another candidate. Mr. McEwen, in concluding an article of three columns prominently displayed in the leading Bryan newspaper of the East, gives warning of the defections that may be expected. "If Bryanism is to mean only 16 to 1 and no compromise, though the political heavens fall, the Democrats of the republic who have men's brains in their heads and men's aspirations in their hearts will be forced to leave a party that has contracted itself into a sect in order to find breathing space and elbow room, or else to search for leaders of a guage sufficiently broad to understand what Democracy really means," This, as heretofore explained, is not the dictum of a "gold bug" or a "minion of Wall street," but it is the declaration of a Democrat who helped to fight Mr. Bryan's battles in 1896. Mr. McEwen may also be accepted as a fair representative of those Eastern Democrats who, despite their objections to silver monometallism, clung to their party from sheer habit, and, perhaps, from sentiment as well. Evidently their number will be much smaller in 1900 if the conditions then are such as Mr. McEwen fears they will be."—Baltimore Sun.

REPUBLICAN HARMONY.

OF THE MILFORD CHRONICLE BRAND.

The appointment of William H. Moore as postmaster at Kenton was peculiarly the result of circumstances. Mr. Moore is a member of the Union Republican Kent County Executive Committee—and was an applicant for the office having entered the field about a year ago.

When Col. duPont was designated dispenser of the Federal patronage of this State it was given out that no Union Republican would be appointed to office, and the result was two Democrats, one a man and the other a woman, made application for the appointment. A dilemma presented itself to Col. duPont and he was compelled to recommend the Union Republican, who is a highly esteemed citizen and will undoubtedly make an efficient officer.

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SUSSEX REPUBLICAN AND MILFORD NEWS KIND.

It is now the proper time for the Republican party of Delaware to unite and heal its wounds. A state election will be held in November. Delaware could be a Republican State and by an overwhelming majority, if the Republicans would only have it so. Therefore a factional row cannot be afforded. Continued bitterness is not the right spirit for success. A Senator will be elected next winter, and it is for the Republicans to say whether the man who succeeds Senator Gray will be an advocate of free silver and free trade or a good protectionist. All should remember the old adage that a house divided against itself cannot stand.—"Republican,"

The "Republican" hits the nail on the head when it says "continued bitterness is not the right spirit for success." There is not the least doubt about the outcome as long as the Republicans of the State remain divided, and divided they will remain as long as a "bitter spirit" governs the judgment of the leaders. Whether we are united or not in the next campain rests entirely with the Union Republicans. Those who made the first thrust into the Republican body with a "four" pronged fork and later on proceeded to lacerate the wound by grinding their heels into the open sore, have the same power to heal the wound as they had to make the thrust. It is to be hoped that a better spirit will prevail and that all men of all factions who claim to be Republicans will endeavor to allay factionalism and prepare to whip Democrats. This will require judgment and discretion on all sides, but it is not impossible if the proper spirit is shown.—News.

CURRENT EVENTS

Four hundred years ago only seven metals were known. Now there are 51, 30 of which have been discovered within the present century.

The latest estimate of the Klondike gold production this winter is $12,000,000. Colorado's yield of gold last year was nearly double that amount.

Germany has $30,000,000 in gold coin packed away in 1,000 iron chests in the fortress of Spandaou. This is intended for use as an emergency fund in case of war.

It has cost Uncle Sam nine million dollar to maintain the navy during the past year, but we guess that no one in the country will dispute the fact that of its having been a good investment.

One feature of a case now before the Supreme Court of Massachussets requires that tribunal to describe what constitutes a Democrat. This is the first time it has ever been seriously contended that it is a function of our courts to solve riddles.

Ten well-dressed young men have been parading the streets of Paris as advertising agents of a concert saloon. They had their smoothly shaven chins ornamented with the name of the concert saloon, painted in blue letters.

The law of compensation is a splendid one. Ex-Senator Tabor, the new postmaster, of Denver, Col., was once a rich man. but he has met with reverses. In his palmy days he sold to the United States Government for $1 the site upon which the Denver post office building stands. Now he is reaping the benefit, for that fact had much to do with getting him the appointment.

Every friend of protection "can point with pride" to the fact that receipts from customs continue to swell in a way which makes the calamity howlers very weary. If within its first year the Dingley tariff succeeds in wholly effacing the Gorman-Wilson deficit, besides bringing back good times in general business, it will be the severest knock on the head which could possibly be dealt to the folly of Bryanism.

The question of removing the county seat of Northampton County, Virginia, from Eastville to Cape Charles still continues to agitate the people of that county. Those opposed to the removal are circulating a petition asking the General Assembly to empower the board of supervisors to appropriate $5,000 of the globe fund of the county to enlarge and otherwise improve the present courthouse and jail at Eastville. This is recognized by the advocates of removal as a flank movement to keep the county seat in its present place, and the friends of Cape Charles are getting up a counter petition, in which the General Assembly is asked to permit the people of the county to vote on the proposition to move the county seat to Cape Charles.

That the circus is still a power in the land, even to the extent of influencing lawmakers, was shown recently in the Tennessee House of Representatives when a bill to tax circuses $200 a day was under consideration. Members from the smaller counties argued that the tax would prove prohibitory. and that no revenue would be gained. Moreover, they said that their constituents wished to see circuses, and they do not want the tax placed so high as to prohibit circuses from giving exhibitions. The moral influences of the circus were brought into question and discussed. Finally an amendment was adopted, graduating the tax on circuses according to the size of the counties. It was made $200 in counties of 50,000 inhabitants, $150 in counties 30,000, $100 in counties of $15,000, and of $50 in all others.

A Sensible Man

Would use Kemp's Balsam for the Throat and Lungs. It is curing more Coughs, Colds, Asthma, Bronchitis, and all Throat and Lung troubles, than any other medicine. The proprietor has authorized any druggist to give you a Sample Bottle *Free* to convince you of the merit of this great emedy. Price 25c. and 50c.

A Fortune For Flowers.

Mrs. Mackay spends more on floral decorations when giving a dinner party or reception that any other member of the fashionable world. She has been known to have chariots—drawn by swans—filled with roses, from which her guests could help themselves. Her dinner tables are a wealth of flowers. When the blossoms are expensive and out of season, the bill for flowers at a reception often amounts to $500.

Such is Fame.

A Prussian officer in the German army has been in the habit of questioning raw recruits on simple matters of national history. Here are a few replies to his question, "Who is Bismark?" "Bismark was emperor of the French." "Bismark is dead." Bismark is a pensioner and lives in Paris." "Bismark took part in the campaign of 1870 and received a medal for good conduct." "Bismark descends from the Hohenzollerns and was born on April 1." Of 66 recruits whom the officers had to instruct, 21 had never in their life heard the name of the Iron Chancellor.

Bucklen's Arnica Salve.

THE BEST SALVE in the world for Cuts, Bruises, Sores, Ulcers, Salt Rheum, Fever Sores, Tetter, Chapped Hands, Chilblains, Corns, and all Skin Eruptions, and positively cures Piles, or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction or money refunded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale at Vaughan's Pharmacy, Middletown, Delaware.

THE TRANSCRIPT, $1.00 per year.

DESTITUE AND STARVING.

Starvation.

This is the word that has much significance among one-half of the people of New Castle to-day.

Starvation!

A careful investigation of the situation in several hundred homes in New Castle, during the past week has revealed a distressing and saddening condition of affair. So distressing indeed is this condition, that it clearly vies with the status of things, among the poor striking spinners and weavers in the town of New Bedford, Mass.

This analogy of the condition of the families which depend upon the operation of the Delaware Iron Works for their daily bread, with the condition of the New Bedford families, is not an exaggeration.

If anything, the comparison favors the New Bedford situation. There the strikers have work to do at the mills if they will accept the cut made in their wages.

They and their families are starving be cause they refuse to work under the reduction in their pay. In other words, they have work to do if they see fit to do it, and take the small compensation connected with it.

Different, vastly different, however, is the situation in New Castle. Glad would several hundred men and boys of New Castle be if their circumstances were even the same as those of the New Bedford people. Happy indeed would they. feel, if like the New Bedford men they had work to go to, even under a cut-wage-rate.

Many homes in New Castle this morning are filled with hope that work will come to anxious husband, fathers, brothers and sons ere long, at any price.

The cry in New Castle homes that exists this morning and has been caused not by a strike, but by the closing of the main avenue for support.

This support was by no means extravagant, yet hundreds of industries men and boys peacefully and contenteply accepted it.

When the chance to earn this support was denied them they went peacefully to their homes to wait. They have waited now three or four weeks, and it now looks as if they will either have to leave and search employment elsewhere or starve.

To go elsewhere to search employment some money is necessary, but the question with them is where will they get it.

For about thirty years the Delaware Iron Works, has been the source from which one-half of the inhabitants of the town get their living.

Two weeks previous to Christmas the works shut down leaving the families of eight hundred men without employment. When the works will resume operation no one at New Castle knows.

The woolen mills of New Castle are also very slack, employing only one-half of the usual force.

The people who are in need are so numerous that the families which are known to be generous have as many as twenty unfortunates at their doors begging for something to keep their souls and bodies together.

Many collections to relieve the suffering ones have been raised but the people who are able to give are outnumbered by the ones in need and the funds raised would not provide victuals for the hungry ones for one day.

The situation is becoming alarming as the people are becoming desperate, and the inhabitants are in constant fear that the unfortunate ones will break into the stores and dwellings and take provisions by force.

A man who is in a position to know the exact condition of affairs, when interviewed, said, something will have to be done, and very soon at that, to give food to people of New Castle who are starving. He said soup houses should be started, as there are many people who are in destitute circumstances who have never before known such a thing, and they cannot maintain the courage to beg from door to door.

The amount of the bill which was allowed by the county to the trustees of the poor for that district for the last quarter would not feed the people, who are starving, for two weeks. James B. Toman, who is trustee of the poor for that district, deserves great credit for the industrious way he has worked and the splendid judgment he has used in distributing the funds. Many charitable people who have friends in New Castle that are needy, have been taking provisions over to them to help to relieve their sufferings.—Wilmington Sun of January 28th.

Deafness Cannot be Cured.

by local applications, as they cannot reach the diseased portions of ear. There is the only one way to cure deafness, and that is constitutional remedies. Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the Eustachian Tube. When this tube gets inflamed you have a rumbling sound or inperfect hearing, and when it is entirely closed deafness is the result, and unless the inflamation can be taken out and this tube restored to its normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever; nine cases out of ten are caused by catarrh which is nothing but an inflamed condition of the mucous surfaces.

We will give One Hundred Dollars for any case of Deafness (caused by catarrh) that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. Send for circulars, free.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.

Sold by Druggists, 75c.

Hall's Family Pills are the best.

California.

The next Personally-Conducted Tour to California via the Pennsylvania Railroad will leave New York, Philadelphia and Pittsburg by the "Golden Gate Special" on Wednesday, February 16th, stopping at the Great Mammoth Cave and New Orleans during the Mardi Gras Carnival. Four weeks will be allowed on the Pacific Coast. Returning, stops will be made at Salt Lake City, Colorado Springs (Garden of the Gods), Denver, Chicago, &c. Round-trip rate, including transportation, meals, carriage drives, hotel accommodations, and Pullman accommodations *en route*, and Pullman berth Los Angeles to San Francisco, and transportation in California, $335.00 from all stations east of Pittsburg; with hotel accommodations, meals, transfers and carriage drives through California for four weeks, $125.00 additional. An experienced chaperon will accompany the party for the benefit of the lady tourists.

For itineraries and full information, apply to ticket agents; Tourist Agent, 1196 Broadway, New York; or address Geo. W. Boyd, Assistant General Passenger Agent, Broad Street Station, Philadelphia.

Aftet using a 10 cent trial size of Ely's Cream Balm you will be sure to buy the 50 cent size. Cream Balm has no equal in curing catarrh and cold in head. Ask your druggist for it or se nd 10 cents to us.

ELY BROS., 56 Warren St., N. Y. City.

I suffered from Catarrh three years; it got so bad I could not work; I used two bottles of Ely's Cream Balm and am entirely well; I would not be without it.—A. C. Clarke, 341 Shawmut Ave., Boston.

WANAMAKER'S.

PHILADELPHIA, Monday, Jan. 24, 1898.

A Dress Goods Review

No goods enter the ranks here for more than a season. We may be importuned to re-order a favored line—but that will not have kept a piece of the first season's lot as a straggler.

The spring recruits are thousands strong. Expect to read their story any fine morning. But now we muster out the lots you saw yesterday and last week. From two of the twenty-three sections alone we line up fifty fine stuffs for the march out. Of these forty-eight are imported; two American. The other sections also contribute.

Now, we are finding dress goods prices higher, as we buy the new lots, but the savings on present lots are based on last week's prices—

Dollar then; half dollar now.

Dollar twenty-five then; seventy-five cents now.

Two dollars then; one dollar now.

And not a piece among the fifty that we look at as we write but will be as self-respecting in its prettiness a year from now—though there is still wear-out time for another winter dress this season. Some few spring tints and weights are included.

At 50c from $1—
Bouretted Check Cheviot.

At 50c from $1.25—
Two-toned Boucle Cheviot.

At 60c from $1.25—
Plaid Boucle on serge ground.

At 75c from $1.25—
Crepe Covert (spring colors).

At 75c from $1.25—
Two-toned Whipcord.

At 75c from $1.75—
Pique Cords (only navy).

At $1 from $1.50—
Illuminated Whipcord.

At $1 from $1.75—
Covert Cloth (spring shade).

At $1 from $2—
Silk-and-wool Tailor Suiting.

Good-fortune Linens

FORESIGHT is better than luck; yet it was good fortune for lovers of good linens that we gathered such liberal supplies be-

fore the high rails were added to the tariff fence. These linens that are now at prices that will not likely be so low again for years, are rapidly dwindling away—the unpleasantly bigger prices will soon be in force—but not just yet. These for your sharing, if you hurry.

TABLE LINENS—

AT 50c A YARD—Full bleached Irish Damask; full two yards wide. A wonder of value that will not be equaled again for years.

AT 60c A YARD—Fine old-fashioned cream dice Table Linen; 66 inches wide. In service equal to the dollar linens.

AT 85c A YARD—Fine full bleached Double Damask Table Linen; full two yards wide. Barely a thousand yards; and then the bigger cost.

TOWELS—

AT 12½c—Extra heavy grass bleached Scotch Huck Towels, of the good old-fashioned "Barnsley" sort. 19x38 inches.

AT 16c—All-white German Huck Towels with hemstitched ends; 18x39 inches. They'll be gone in a day or two—then no more at such a price.

AT 25c—Fine white Huckaback Towels, made in Ireland; handsome damask borders; 24x46 inches. A surprising value even in this store.

TURKISH BATH TOWELS—

The cotton Towels that won't part company with the linen, because just as much wanted in their way. Extra heavy and full bleached.

18x42 inches, at 12½c.
22x52 inches, at 18c.

Flannels and Flannelettes

WE'VE just had good fortune in finding white flannels at surprisingly low prices. And prices are said to be going up, you know—these went the other way.

Want to share them? Four prices—

At 12½c—Substantial cotton and wool Flannel, of fair weight, even threads and well wearing Regularly 18c.

At 16c—Finer Flannels, with a bigger share of wool. The first time for this grade under 22c.

At 18c—A notch higher in grade; still greater proportion of wool. Regularly 25c.

At 25c—Fine all-wool white Flannel, in a weight not sold before at less than 31c.

FLANNELETTES—

At 5c—Flannelettes in new styles, and better than usual quality. A wonder how the dyeing, spinning and weaving can be done for the little price.

At 7c—Finer and heavier Flannelettes; prettier styles, too.

At 10c—Flannelettes that look and feel like wool, but every thread is cotton; warm and pleasant for night dresses, wrappers and children's wear.

John Wanamaker.

Mrs. THOMAS MASSEY, DEALER IN

Watches, Clocks, Jewelry, and Silverware.

ALSO A LARGE STOCK OF Cut Glass, AND VARIOUS ARTICLES IN GOLD AND SILVER FOR WEDDING AND BIRTHDAY GIFTS.

Repairing and Silversmithing a Specialty.

Mrs. Thomas Massey,

Main Street, Middletown, Dela

WE FIGURE

How Cheap We Can Sell

IF WE BUY CHEAPER SO WE CAN AFFORD TO SELL CHEAPER.....

OUR stock throughout is marked at the Lowest Possible Cash Prices, it is not a stock with only a few things cheap here and there in order to induce you to buy other things on which a big profit is made. These items in this advertisement show how we undersell any other store.

Ladies' Curled Astrakhan Cloth Coats, reduced from $11.00 to **$5.98.**

SHOES-- Big Boys' Shoes, sizes 2½ to 5½, Boston Calf, Kangaroo tops, 2 soles, excellent school Shoes, **$1.00.**

Little Boys' Spring Heel Shoes, crack proof and box calf, some have raw hide tops, 9 to 13½, **$1.25.**

Little Boys' Spring Heel Calf Skin Shoes, lace hook, made for wear and looks, 9½ to 13½, **85c.**

Girls' Spring Heel Lace and Button Shoes, patent leather tips, 11½ to 2, **60c.**

Boys' and Girls' Heavy Kangaroo School Shoes, sizes 8 to 12, **50c.**

HOSIERY, &c.--Manufacturers samples of Boys' and Misses' Ribbed Black Cotton Hose, full regular made and seamless, sizes 5 to 9½ and worth 12½c, here **5c** the pair.

Ladies' Black Cotton Hose, full regular made usual 18c values, here **12c½c** the pair.

Ladies' Fleeced Cotton Vests and Pants, winter weight, worth 25c, here **19c.**

Children's Knit Undershirts, winter weight, **5c,** worth 10 cents.

Dry Goods Department.

Hill Muslin, one yard wide, 5½ cents instead of 8c.

Nutwood Unbleached Muslin, one yord wide, 5 cents instead of 7c.

Lonsdale Cambric Muslin, one yard wide, 9 cents instead of 12½ cents.

Fruit of the Loom Muslin, one yard wide 6½ cents instead of 10 cents.

Conestoga Bed Ticking, ¾ yard wide, best made, 16 cents instead of 20 cents.

Best Shirting Prints in stripes, dots, black, black, blue and grays, no better made, 4 cents instead of 8 cents.

Two Quart Hot Water Bottles, 49c instead of $1.25.

Perforated Chair Seats, made of three layers of maple, 5c instead of 25c.

J. B. MESSICK.

Middletown - - Delaware.

A Single Standard

only is possible, whether as a test of excellence in journalism, or for the measurement of quantities, time or values; and

The.... Philadelphia Record

after a career of nearly twenty years of uninterrupted growth is justified in claiming that the standard first established by its founders is the one true test of

A Perfect Newspaper

To publish All The News promptly and succinctly and in the most readable form, without elision of partisan bias; to discuss its significance with frankness, to keep An Open Eye For Public Abuses, to give besides a complete record of current thought, fancies and discoveries in all departments of human activity in its Daily Editions of from 10 to 14 Pages, and to provide the whole for its patrons at the nominal price of One Cent—that was from the outset, and will continue to be the aim of THE RECORD.

The Pioneer

one cent morning newspaper in the United States, THE RECORD still Leads Where Others Follow.

Witness its unrivaled average daily circulation, exceeding 160,000 copies, and an average exceeding 120,000 copies for its Sunday editions, while imitations of its plan of publication in every important city of the country testify to the truth of the assertion that in the quantity and quality of its contents, and in the price at which it is sold THE RECORD has established the standard by which excellence in journalism must be measured.

The Daily Edition

of THE RECORD will be sent by mail to any address for $3.00 per year or 25 cents per month.

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12½c grade for 7c.
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31c grade for 15c.

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Insertings and Flouncings in short lengths, 1½ to 4 yards each, will be put on sale Saturday at half price.

Wash Goods

Are arriving daily for Spring buyers. They are crowding out the old styles which may suit you as well, however, and which will be sold as follows:

2c pieces yard wide Percale, styles not as good as the new, we think. Your idea may be different. We shall sell the 12½c goods for 6½c.
8,000 yards best quality dark Calicoes 4c per yard, worth 6c;
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$1.25 Moquettes for 75c.
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Moquette Rugs—
18x36, 85c.
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which will be the last lot sold at these prices.

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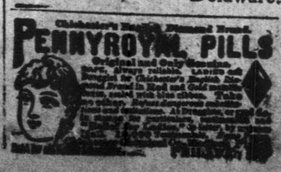

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Peoples National Bank.—President, G. W. W Naudain; Cashier, Geo. D. Kelley; Teller, W. G. Lockwood. Bank Building on East Main Street.

Citizens National Bank.—President, Joseph Biggs; Cashier, John S. Crouch; Teller, J. Darlington. Bank Building on South Broad Street.

SECRET SOCIETIES.

Middletown Council, No. 2, Jr. O. U. A. M. Meets every Monday night in McWhorter's Hall at 8 o'clock.

Union Lodge, No. 5, A. F. & A. M. Meets first Tuesday of each month in Town Hall.

Good Samaritan Lodge, No. 9, I. O. O. F. Meets every Thursday night in McWhorter's Hall at 8 o'clock.

Damon Lodge, No. 12, K. of P. Meets every Wednesday night in McWhorter's Hall at 8 o'clock.

Major John Jones Post, No. 22, G. A. R. Meets every Friday night in Reynolds Building at 7 o'clock

Welcome Conclave Heptasophs. Meets every second and fourth Friday night in K. of P. Hall.

Union Lodge, No. 6, A. O. U. W., meets every 2d and 4th Tuesday night in McWhorter's Hall.

LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS.

Volunteer Hose Company, meets drst Friday night of each month in Hose House.

MIDDLETOWN, DEL, JAN. 29, 1898.

Of Interest to Farmers

GOOD ROADS.

This is a subject that is beginning to attract more than ordinary attention in all parts of the country and our county is not to be left out. A few years ago the "Union" called attention to the fact that wide tires on road vehicles, were recognized as excellent road improvers and were advocated by scientific journals generally. Mr. T. Fred Garey, a progressive farmer living near town, went to the trouble of having wide tires fitted to the wheels of one of his farm wagons as an experiment, using it for hauling fruit. The advantage was very apparent when the wagon could pass over the sand road several times without the tracks being disturbed by other vehicles, but the tires were finally abandoned on account of haying to break tracks with every load. Every farmer who has ever lived in the West where they are used, or has used them, admits their advantage. In many states vehicles having a certain width of tire are exempt from taxation. In England they are taxed according to the narrowness of the tire, the narrower the tire the higher the tax.

Thus we see this question has been decided long since by other sections of the country, and where the best roads prevail there are the wide tires found. We believe our county commissioners could well afford to exempt from taxation all wagons or carts used on our roads that shall be equiped with tires not less than four inches wide. They could not be expected to make a sandy road hard of course, but they would undoubtedly do away with many of the deep ruts and holes on the hard roads.

One of the greatest mistakes in the present system of working our public roads, according to a number of civil engineers with whom we have talked, is in the lack of proper drainage. Almost one-half of the roads in the county are higher along the sides, where there should be ditches, than they are in the middle. Mr. M. L. Saulsbury who made the map of the county roads for the Commissioners last summer, says this important principle in the making of good roads—proper drainage—is conspicuously absent throughout the county. Wherever the soil is heavy enough to pack a good hard road ought to be maintained in this climate for nine months in the year if drained so that the water runs off instead of standing in the ruts and in the middle of the road. With the broad tires the ruts are done away with and a long stride toward good roads is made.

Let our farmers get out of the old ruts and if legislation along this line is needed have it attended to at once.—American Union, Denton.

A BARNYARD COMPOST HEAP.

My ideal barnyard, and one which I have used for several years, adjoins the cattle and horse barns, and is two feet deeper in the centre than on the sides, writes R. Bingham, of New Jersey. The depression is large enough to hold the liquid excrement and the water after a rainfall without overflowing. In this I place cuttings of weeds, grass, tender shrubs and briars from the roadside, along fences, ditches and waste places, leaves and shade trees, potato, tomato, bean and pea vines, corn stubs, old papers, rags, cullings of fruit and vegetables, dead poultry, dead dogs. Useless and dead horses and cattle are worth more than fertilizer manufacturers pay for them. When buried in the heap and covered with horse manure or soil, offensive odors are absorbed. Sweepings from macadam or Telford roads, the pulverized rock from the new magnet iron process, may add to our fertilizing material:

When vines, stubs, etc., or crops sown for the purpose are plowed in where they grew, the poor spots in the field get the least benefit and the rich places the most, but when putting on compost we reverse the order. To offset the cost of transportation to and from the compost heap, we have better plowing and working. Weed seeds and insect pests which would live over in the field are drowned, crushed of germinated to die in the compost. The vegetable matter is worth, at fertilizer prices, about five to eight dollars per dry ton, and clean roadsides and farm as much more, so that it doubly pays to keep a compost heap.

The ground should first be plowed and the compost spread on and mixed with the surface soil. In taking out compost, I commence at the highest corner and throw back all coarse material for a new heap. Working the fine compost in the surface soil gives to the rootlets the food as the rain dissolves it. It also serves as a mulch in conserving moisture by preventing rapid evaporation, but coarse material plowed in deeply prevents the rise of capillary moisture during dry weather and increases the injury from drouth. The general practice in market gardening is to open furrows and place the manure in, and plant seeds or set plants on or above the manure. Believing this to be wrong, I planted peas and potatoes in the furrows and set plants in the soil, with the manure above the seed and rootlets, and had from ten to thirty per cent. more product with the manure above. The dryer the season, the greater the difference. By this method I have cleaner and more fertile farms, better crops, fewer weeds and insect pests, a better reputation and peaceful home.

THE ERIE CANAL.

Mr. Ernest Ingersoll writes an article for St. Nicholas on the Greater New York, his paper being entitled "Reasoning Out A Metropolis." Mr. Ingersoll says:

The greatest of all the influences that assisted New York to reach first place was the Erie Canal. The first quarter of this century was the era of canal building. No matter how fine the turnpike may be, horses can haul in wagons only high-priced merchandise, in comparatively small quantities and for short distances, unless the cargo is to cost for transportation more than it is worth. Men found out in Europe and Asia long ago that for moving grain, coal, timber, ore and similar bulky or heavy goods, where speed was not especially important, a ship or boat was the only practical method. If a river were not convenient, then an artificial waterway, called a canal—that is, channel—must be made. When in any country something of this kind cannot be done, that country must remain undeveloped and thinly populated, like the Sahara.

Why is a canal so much better than a good road for commercial purposes? Because, while two horses and one man can haul on a hard, level road perhaps two tons, the same driver with two horses harnessed to a canal boat can move twenty tons nearly as quickly; that is, the same force and expense for pay and food of men and horses accomplish ten times as much in result, which really makes the goods ten times cheaper at the end of the route.

Hence, before the invention of railroads, it was necessary for any growing country to dig canals to serve as the highways of commerce; and this the young United States hastened to do. New York, as usual, moved among the foremost. She planned and constructed, besides some lesser ones, that great waterway, four hundred miles long, from Albany to Buffalo, which was called the Erie Canal, and connected the Hudson with the Great Lakes.

The canal was finished in 1825, and immensely stimulated the growth, not only of the western part of New York State, but of the whole region of the Great Lakes; for now farmers in the Northwest could send their grain and fruit and cattle, and the miners their ore, and the lumbermen their ship timber, and boards and staves, to the seaboard at profitable rates; and in return they could obtain the imports, merchandise and manufactures of seacoast cities at fair cost. A fleet of vessels on the lakes came and went, bringing from farm, mine and forest cargoes which were loaded into canal boats and sent east, often to be transferred to vessels for foreign ports without ever touching land at all. And back went supplies for the interior of New York State, and for settlers in Ohio, Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois, and beyond, who could never have lived and worked in those distant parts except for this means of cheap communication. To them, also, every summer, went thousands of new settlers from New England and Old England and all Europe, who needed no longer to spend weeks and weeks in traveling in wagons before reaching their new homes.

PUSHING OUR HORSES.

Secretary of Agriculture Wilson has inaugurated an inquiry to ascertain the demand for horses in foreign countries, especially with reference to the requirements of European Governments for horses for their armies, and has appointed Mr. Charles E. Stubbs, of Denver, as a special commissioner to visit Europe and assist in collecting data for a bulletin on the subject. Secretary Wilson takes the position that with our cheap grasses and grains the United States should supply horses, as well as cattle, for the rest of the world, and that well-directed efforts, as soon as the foreign demand is known, will enable our farmers and stockmen to control the foreign markets. While our diplomatic and consular representatives have been instructed to co-operate with Secretary Wilson in an investigation of the world's markets for agricultural products, and although the Secretary of Agriculture has enlisted the assistance of scientific societies and commercial organizations as well as individuals in foreign countries with a view to obtaining the latest and fullest information available concerning agricultural subjects, the results up to date have not been entirely satisfactory. It has been found necessary, whenever a thorough investigation is to be made along any particular line, to select an expert for that purpose and send him abroad. The dependence of the agricultural industries upon voluntary assistance for important information concerning foreign markets, and the inability of the Secretary to direct the honorary agents of his department in an investigation of any particular industry, has caused him to recommend that graduates of agricultural colleges and other experts who are competent to conduct scientific as well as commercial inquiries in agricultural subjects be sent abroad as attaches at our legations, especially those in Europe. These attaches would not only keep the department informed of agricultural developments and progress in their respective countries, but would report upon the demands of the markets and would be available for immediate service in any investigation which the Secretary of Agriculture should deem of value to our agricultural interests. The proposition has received the indorsement of the House Committee on Agriculture, and may be embodied in the Agricultural Appropriation bill.

Secretary Wilson has employed Mr. Stubbs to collect all available information concerning the peculiarities of the different foreign horse markets, especially the requirements and regulations controlling the purchase of horses for European armies, those that are most in demand, the present source of supply and the prevailing prices. It is his purpose to make the inquiry thorough in every particular and present such information to our breeders and farmers generally as will enable them to determine intelligently where it will be to their advantage to compete for a foreign market. European Governments send agents abroad every year to purchase horses for their cavalry and artillery service. These agents generally visit the United States, but some have of late years turned their attention to the Argentine Republic with indifferent success. The complaint generally heard concerning the horses of the United States does not refer to their breed, size or price, but to the refusal or neglect of our stock-growers to prepare for the demands. Generally they make no effort to secure the trade, and this indifference has diverted the agents at times to other horse-raising countries. The Secretary believes that when our breeders understand the foreign demand and are instructed how the markets can be best reached and controlled the large profits will induce them to compete for the trade. —Chicago Record.

FLORIDA.

With its matchless climate, its orange groves, its rivers and lakes, its boating and bathing, its fishing and hunting, and its primeval forests, Florida presents unrivaled attractions for the valetudinarian, the lover of nature, the sportsman, and the explorer.

The first Jacksonville tour of the season via the Pennsylvania Railroad, allowing two weeks in Florida, leaves New York by special train Tuesday, January 25. Excursion tickets, including railway transportation, Pullman accommodations (one berth), and meals *en route* in both directions while traveling on the special train, will be sold at the following rates: New York, $50.00; Philadelphia, $48.00; Cananda; igua, $52.85; Erie, 54.85; Wilkesbarre, $50.35 Pittsburg, $53.00; and at proportionate rates from other points.

For tickets, itineraries, and full information apply to ticket agents; Tourist Agent, 1196 Broadway New York; or address Geo. W. Boyd, Assistant General Passenger Agent, Broad Street Station, Philadelphia.

The Coming Woman

Who goes to the club while her husband the baby, as well as the good old-fashioned woman who looks, after her home, will both at times get run down in health. They will be troubled with loss of appetite, headaches, sleeplessness, fainting or dizzy spells. The most wonderful remedy for these women is Electric Bitters. Thousands of suffers from Lame Back and Weak Kidneys rise up and call it blessed. It is the medicine for women. Female complaints and Nervous troubles of all kinds are soon relieved by the use of Electric Bitters, Delicate women should keep this remedy on hand or build up the system. Only 50c. per bottle. For sale at Vaughan's Pharmacy, Middletown, Delaware.

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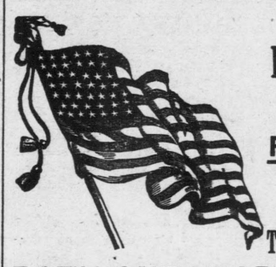

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PURCHASE OF GRAIN

Time Table.

Phila. Wilm. and Baltimore R. R

DELAWARE DIVISION

On and after January 17th 1897, train will leave as follows:

SOUTHWARD.

	PAS. A. M.	EXP. A. M.	PAS. P. M.	MAIL P. M.	MAIL P M	
Philadelphia	f7.25	‖10.20	12.02	‖3.46	‖5.39	‖11.10
Baltimore	6.25	9.05	12 05	3.00	5.30	7.53
Wilmington	8 13	11.04	2.51	4.27	6:56	11.56
Farnhurst	f 8.22		f 3 00		f 7.04	
New Castle	8.27	f 11.21	3.05	4.39	7:09	
State Road	f8.33		f 3.10		f 7:14	
Bear	f8.38		f 3.15	f 4.49	7:19	
Porter	8.45		f 3.20	4.53	7:25	
Kirkwood	8.50		f 3.25		7:30	
Mt. Pleasant	8.59		f 3.34		7:38	
Armstrong	f 9.03				f 7:42	
Middletown	9.08	11.50	3.43	5.18	f 7:48	12.39
Townsend	9 17		3.52	5.28	7:56	
Blackbird	f 9.22		f 3 58		f 8:01	
Gr'n Spring	f 9.27		f 4 07		f8:07	
Clayton	9 33	12 07	4.13	5.42	8:18	12.57
Smyrna..LV	9 32	11.57	4.02	5.20	8:08	
Brenford	f9.38		f 4.18		f8:18	
Cheswold	f9.43		f 4.23		f8:24	
Dupont			f 4.26			
Dover	9.58	12.23	4.32	5.59	8:34	1.16
Wyoming	10.05	‖12.29	4.39	6.05	8:40 a	1.24
Woodside	f10 11			f 6.11	f8 47	
Viola	f10.15			f 6.15	f8.51	
Felton	10 30	‖12.40		6.30	8.56 a	1.38
Harrington	10 34	12.53		6.35	9.07	1.50
Farmington	f10 42 a	1.00		f 6.41	f 9.15	
Greenwood	f10.50 f	1 08		f 6.49	f 9 23	
Bridgeville	10.58 f	1.16		6.58	9.31 a	2.14
Canhons	f11 03			f 7.01	f 9.36	
Seaford	11 13	1.27		7.10	9 46	2.26
Laurel	11.23 f	1.37		7.19	9.55 a	2.36
Delmar	11.33	1.46		7.29	10 05	2.50
	a. m.	a. m.	p. m.	p. m.	p. m.	p. m

NORTHWARD.

	EXP. A. M.	MAIL A. M.	EXP. A. M.	MAIL A. M.	MAIL P. M.	EXP. P. M.	PAS P. M
Delmar	‖1.08		7.00	8.00	‖2.15		‖3.30
Laurel	f 1.21		7.11	8.10	2.25		3.41
Seaford	1.34		7.22	8.24	2.35		3.56
Cannons			f 7.31	f 8.31			f 4.04
Bridgeville	f 1.48		7.37	8.37	f 2.46		4.11
Greenwood			f7.45	f 8.45	f 2.54		f 4.19
Farmington			f 7.53	f 8.53			f 4.27
Harrington	2.22		8.05	9 06	3.08		4:40
Felton	f 2.33		8.14	9.16	f 3.18		4:49
Viola			f8.18	f 9.20			f 4:53
Woodside			f8.22	f 9.24			f 4:57
Wyoming	p 2:46	‖6.57	f8.29	9.31	f 3 30		5:05
Dover	2.52	7.03	8.35	9.38	3.36		5:11
Dupont		f7.08					
Cheswold		f7.13		f 9.48			f 5:20
Brenford		f7.18		f 9.53			f 5:25
Smyrna..LV		7.14	8.42	9.49	3.44		5:20
Clayton	3.09	7.24	8.53	9.59	3.54		5:20
Gr'n Spring		f7.28					f 5:37
Blackbird		f7.34		f10.08			f 5:43
Townsend		7.39	9 06	10 13	4.07		5:49
Middletown	3.30	7.50	9.15	10,23	4.16		5:57
Armstrong		f7.54					f 6:01
Mt Pleasant		7.58		f10 32			6:05
Kirkwood		8.08		10.40			6:15
Porter		8.15	9 34	10.46	4.34		6:20
Bear		f8.20		f10.51			6:25
State Road		f8.25		f10 56			6:30
New Castle		8.31	9 46	11.02	4.47		6:35
Farnhurst		f8.36	9.50	f11.07			f 6.39
Wilmington	4 15	8 45	9 58	11.17	4.59		6:47
Baltimore	5.31	10.40	11 15	12.40	6 55		8:43
Philadelphia	5.10	9.32	10 46	12.06	5 42		7:33
	a m.	a m.	a m.	p m.	p m.		p m

‖ Daily. ‡ Daily except Sunday.

"a" Stops to leave passengers from Wilmington and points north, or take passengers for points south of Delmar.

"f" Stops only on notice to conductor or agent or on signal.

"p" Stops to leave passengers from points south of Delmar, or take passengers for Wilming and points north.

"‡" Stops to leave passengers from Middle town and points south.

"‡" Stops to let off passengers from Harrington points south.

NEW CASTLE ACCOMMODATION TRAINS.—Leave Wilmington 8.13, 11.04, a. m , 2.51, 4.27, and 6.55, p. m., week-days Leave New Castle 8.31, 9.46, 11.02 a. m., 4.4.7 and 6.35 p m., week-days.

Express trains leaving Harrington 8.05 a. m., and arriving at 6.33 p. m., week-days, run through solid to and from Baltimore, via Porter and Newark.

BRANCH ROADS.

DELAWARE, MARYLAND & VIRGINIA R. R.—Leave Harrington for Franklin City and way stations 10.39 a m. week-days, 6.37 p m Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. Returning train leaves Franklin City 5.50 a. m. week days, and 1.42 Tuesdays, Thurs a s and Saturdays only.

Leave Franklin City for Chincoteague (via steamer) 1.43 p. m., week-days Returning, leave Chincoteague 6.42 a. m., week-days.

Leave Harrington for Georgetown and Lewes at 10.39 a. m., 6.37 p. m., week-days. Returning, leave Lewes 6.45 a. m., 3 11 p. m. week-days.

Leave Harrington for Berlin, 10.39 a. m. week days and 6.37 p. m. Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. Returning, leave Berlin 6.37 a. m. week days and 2.43 p. m. Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

QUEEN ANNE & KENT R. R.—Leave Townsend for Centreville and way stations 9.22 a. m., and 5.32 p. m., week days Returning, leave Centreville 6.50 a. m., and 1.27 p. m., week-days.

DELAWARE & CHESAPEAKE R. R.—Leave Clayton for Oxford and way stations 9.38 a. m., and 5.47 p. m., week-days. Returning, leave Oxford 6.45 a. m., and 1 40 p. m., week-days.

CAMBRIDGE & SEABORD R. R.—Leave Seaford for Cambridge and intermediate stations 11.17 a. m. and 7.14 p. m. week-days, Returning, leave Cambridge 7.0 | and 10.55 p. m. week-days

CONNECTION.—At Porter, with Newark and Delaware City Railroad. At Townsend, with Queen Anne's & Kent Railroad. At Clayton with Delaware & Chesapeake Railroad and Baltimore & Delaware Bay Railroad. At Harrington, with Delaware, Maryland & Virginia Railroad. At Seaford, with Cambridge & Seaford Railroad. At Delmar, with New York, Philadelphia & Norfolk, Wicomico & Pocomoke, and Peninsula Railroads.

J. B. HUTCHISON, General Manager.
J. R. WOOD, General Passenger Agent.

B. & O. Railroad.

Schedule in effect November 18th, 1897

All trains illuminated with Pintsch Light

*Express trains.

TRAINS LEAVE WILMINGTON. DELAWARE AVE STATION FOR

New York, week-days, *3.13, *9.39, ‖10.24 a. m. *12.19, *2.34, *3.59 *5.21, *7 41, *11 p. m Sundays, *3.13, *9.39 *11.24, a. m. *3.59, *5.21, *7 41, ‖11.00, p. m.

Philadelphia, week-days, ‖3.13, 5.50, 6.40, 7.15, 17.35, ‖8.25, 9.00, 19.39, ‖10.24, 11.05, a. m. ‖12.19, 1.20, ‖2.34, ‖3.59, 4.10, 15.21, 6.30, 17.41, 9.15 ‖11.00 p. m. Sundays, ‖3.13, 7.35, 8.50, 19.39 11.24 ‖11.24, a. m., ‖3.59, 4.10, 15.21, 6.30, 17.41, 9.15, 111.00, p. m.

Chester, week-days, ‖3.13, 5.50, 6.40, 17.15, 7.35, ‖8.25 ‖9.00, 19.39, , ‖10.24, 11.05 a.m., 1.20, ‖2.34, 4.10, 15.21, 6.30, 17.41, 9.15, ‖11 p. m. Sundays, ‖3.13, 7.35, 8 50, 19.39 ‖11.24 11.24 a. m., ‖3 59,4.10, 5 21, 6 30, 7 41, 9.15, ‖11.00, p. m.

Atlantic City, week-days, 17.15, a. m., ‖12.19, ‖2.34, p. m., Sundays, *7 35 a. m.

Cape May, week-days, m., ‖5.50 am, Sundays, 2.34 a. m.

Baltimore and Washington, week-days, ‖4.18 7.10, ‖8.35, ‖11 01 a. m., ‖12.57, 12.09, 3.04, ‖4.04, 4.57 ‖6.18, ‖8 04 ‖9.11 p. m. Sundays, ‖4.18, 7.10, ‖8.35 a m., ‖12.57, 12.09, 3.04, 4.57, ‖8 04 ‖9.11. p. m Baltimore and way stations, daily. 7.10, a. m 8.04 p.m.,

Newark, Del., week-days, ‖4.18, 7.10, ‡ 8.35 ‖11 01 a.m., ‖12.57 3.04, ‖4 04, 4.57, ‖6.18, 7.32, ‖9.11 ‖10.55 p m.

Sundays, ‖4.18, 7.10, ‖8.35 a. m. 12.57 3.04 ‖4.57, 7.32, ‖9.11p. m.

Pittsburg, week-days, ‖8.35, a m ‖6.18 p. m., Sundays ‖8.35 a m ‖4 57 p m.

Chicago, daily, ‖ 35 a m *1.57 p m.

Chicago via Cincinnati and Indianapolis ‖8.35 a m daily..

Cincinnati and St. Louis, daily ‖8.35 a m